

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

HENDERSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

**PUBLIC HEARING
TO CONSIDER
A MORATORIUM ON “CRYPTOCURRENCY MINING”
May 1, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.**

ATTACHMENT(S): Draft Ordinance Imposing Moratorium

SUMMARY:

A public hearing has been scheduled on May 1, 2023 in the above matter.

At the conclusion of the public hearing, the Board may choose to take action, delay action to a subsequent meeting, or take no action.

**HENDERSON COUNTY
NORTH CAROLINA**

Before the Board of Commissioners

Ordinance Imposing Moratorium

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ENACTMENT 2023-_____

Because of citizen concerns regarding “cryptocurrency mining”, because problems caused by unregulated cryptocurrency mining has the potential to cause significant harm to the County’s citizens, and because the process for the amendment of the County’s land development ordinance (Chapter 42 of the Henderson County Code) to regulate cryptocurrency mining if and when necessary requires time for relevant hearings and notices, pursuant to the provisions of N.C. Gen. Stat. §160D-107, Henderson County adopts the following Order placing a moratorium on “cryptocurrency mining”. For the purpose of this Order only, the Board makes the following findings:

1. “Cryptocurrency mining” is the method of verifying transactions on a digital ledger for a blockchain using more specialized and often interconnected computers housed in a single facility, receiving a reward for their verifying transactions in the form of new cryptocurrency for their computational effort.

2. Cryptocurrency mining requires the use of a great amount of electricity for the calculations, and additional quantities of electricity or other cooling methods to disperse the heat created in the calculation process. In addition, cryptocurrency mining creates noise which is often unreasonably disturbing to nearby landowners.

3. A moratorium is the only way to avoid negative effects of new cryptocurrency mining in the County while County staff and its planning board studies and brings to this Board an amendment to Chapter 42 to address any negative effects of cryptocurrency mining found.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §160D-107, that a moratorium now exists on the permitting of any development approval under Chapter 42 of the Henderson County Code, effective upon the adoption hereof. This moratorium shall expire upon the sooner to occur of (1) the adoption by this Board of an amendment to Chapter 42 of the Henderson County Code addressing cryptocurrency mining, (2) its extension on the process set out in §160D-107, or (3) the passage of sixty (60) days from the effective date hereof.

Adopted on motion duly made, this 1st day of May, 2023, at _____ p.m..

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

By: _____
REBECCA McCALL, Chair

Attest:

Clerk to the Board of Commissioners